Onna no Ko Play
ch. 3
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Emergency
Exit
ONNA NO KO PLAY
EVERYONE'S HARD AT WORK.
NOTARI HINEMOSU

FWAAA...
SO SLEEPY...
MORNING, SAKI-CHAN.
YOU LOOK KIND OF TIRED.
AH, GOOD MORNING...
I WAS SO NERVOUS LAST NIGHT THAT I COULDN'T SLEEP...
IF YOU MOVE AROUND, YOU WON'T FEEL DROWSY ANYMORE
IS THIS TRUCK... YOURS, SENSEI?
YEAH, RIGHT. IT'S A RENTAL.

GOOD MORNING!
GOOD MORNING.
IT'S FINALLY TIME FOR THE PERFORMANCE, HUH?
WHY'D YOU ROUND ME UP, TOO?
MANUAL LABOR ISN'T WHAT I'M HERE FOR
YOU'RE THE ONLY GUY WE HAVE, SO THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE
DIDN'T THAT FIRST-YEAR SASAKI JOIN?
YOU SAID HE WAS HELPING WITH THE BACKGROUND ART AND STUFF, SO WHY NOT USE HIM?
I-I'LL DO IT INSTEAD!!
I HAVE THE LOWEST POSITION, AFTER ALL!!
AH...WELL, I MEANT THAT IF WE NEEDED A GUY TO HELP, HE'D BE THE ONE TO CALL...
WE'RE ALL HERE, I SEE.

ALL RIGHT, TODAY IS THE COMMEMORATIVE FIRST PERFORMANCE WITH THIS GROUP.
OUR TIME TO PREPARE WAS SHORT AND IT WAS A LOT OF WORK,
BUT LET'S ENJOY THE REST OF IT TO THE FULLEST.
YEAH, YEAH.
I HAVE A GOOD FEELING ABOUT THIS...
THEN LET'S LOAD UP THE STAGE PROPS AND GET GOING.

WELL... I'M JUST WORRIED ABOUT WHETHER I'VE MEMORIZED IT ALL.
YOU'RE STILL LOOKING AT THE SCRIPT THIS LATE IN THE GAME?
AH!
AHH !!
SO IF YOU'VE COME THIS FAR, YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT EVEN IF YOU STRUGGLE
THIS ISN'T A TEST YOU'RE STUDYING FOR,

IT'S IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THE LINES, BUT YOU CAN'T JUST RECITE THEM AS IS,
SO YOU ALSO NEED TO FORGET ABOUT THEM ONCE.
INSTEAD OF BY MEMORY, YOU HAVE TO GIVE YOUR LINES WITH YOUR FEELINGS.
NEXT STOP, ○○ EXIT ON THE RIGHT.
ALL RIGHT, WE'RE HERE
HUH!? HERE !?
WHAT'S WRONG, SAKI-SAN?
AH... IT'S NOTH-ING..
AHH, LIKE I THOUGHT..

YOU'RE FINALLY HERE.
THIS IS ISHII-SENSEI WHO CALLED US THIS TIME.
GOOD MORNING I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU TODAY.
THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR TODAY.
.....
THE SAME GOES FOR ME. LET'S HAVE A GOOD TIME TODAY.
WHEN SUTANI-SENSEI USED TO BE IN A THEATRE GROUP,
SHE SHOWED US SOME PLAYS HERE

.....
WELL THEN, THE KIDS AND I WILL BE ENJOYING IT TOGETHER.
AH, IS THAT SO?
HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN?
I WAS STILL IN A STUDENT THEATRE GROUP AT THAT TIME, THOUGH.
AH.. WELL....
.. I'M SORRY..
IT'D BE BAD FOR YOU TO GET HURT. I'LL DO THE REST, SO YOU CAN TAKE A BREAK.
WHAT ARE YOU SPACING OUT FOR, SAKI-CHAN?
OWW !!

IS SAKI-CHAN ALL RIGHT?
I GUESS IT'S A BIT OF STAGE FRIGHT.
BUT WELL, HE GATHERED HIS COURAGE WHEN HE PLAYED A MANNEQUIN, SO I THINK HE'LL BE STRONG FOR THE PERFORMANCE, THOUGH.
HOW NOSTALGIC...
ALTHOUGH IT NOT LIKE IT'S BEEN LONG ENOUGH TO SAY THAT.
..AH,
THAT'S RIGHT... PREZ TOOK THE SCRIPT..

WHEN YOU PUT ON THE COSTUME, IT STARTS TO FEEL REAL, HUH?
FOREST WITCH, TO YOUR POSITION!
THE CURTAIN'S GONNA RISE!
ALL RIGHT!
LET'S DO OUR FIRST PERFOR-MANCE!
YUKI!

WHEW...
I COULDN'T SAY LONG TIME NO SEE DRESSED LIKE THIS...
THIS IS ISHII-SENSEI WHO CALLED US THIS TIME
WELL THEN, THE KIDS AND I WILL BE ENJOYING IT TOGETHER.
CONCEN-TRATE, CONCEN-TRATE, CONCEN-TRATE...
I HAVE TO CONCEN-TRATE ON THE STAGE...
DON'T THINK ABOUT ANY-THING ELSE!
CRAP!

AH...
AHH...

IS SHE STRETCHING THE TIME...?
SHE'S NOT GIVING HER LINES
HM? WHAT IS IT?
...HUH?
NO...
.....
IS IT THAT SHE JUST WENT STIFF DURING THE MANNEQUIN SKIT...!?
THAT HER MIND'S GONE BLANK AND HER LINES HAVE BEEN BLOWN AWAY...
IT'S...

WHAT SHOULD WE DO? WE CAN STILL DO IT OVER FROM THE BEGINNING.
NO...
THE CURTAIN'S BEEN RAISED,
SO WE CAN'T LOWER IT DURING THE PERFOR-MANCE!
BUT THEN WHAT SHOULD WE DO!?
IF WE DON'T HURRY, THE KIDS WILL LOSE INTEREST!
WE DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO HOPE SAKI-CHAN WILL RECOVER ON HER OWN.
SO WE'LL HAVE TO SKIP THE OPENING MONOLOGUE AND SEND IN THE OLDER SISTER.
SHIINA-CHAN!
Y... YES!?
ジロ

I...I'LL DO MY BEST!
IF YOU'RE SUDDENLY GOING TO AD-LIB,
FORCE SOMETHING ON HER LIKE, "HOW MUCH IS THIS?"
AD-LIB THE OPENING PART AND INCORPERATE YOUR LINES,
AND THEN NATURALLY CONNECT THE CONVER-SATION.
ALL RIGHT, HERE I GO!
HAA... I'M FINALLY HERE...
I ONLY CAME HERE ON A RUMOR THAT A WITCH WAS LIVING IN THE FOREST ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE VILLAGE, BUT...
WHY DID SHE COME OUT!? WAIT, DON'T LOOK LIKE THAT!!

I'M BEGGING YOU! AD-LIB MY RESPONSE!
IT'S ALREADY GOTTEN DARK...
I HOPE SHE'S NOT OUT..
AH, YOU'RE HERE!
IF YOU WERE OUT, I WAS WORRIED ABOUT WHAT I'D DO.
Knock
Knock
Knock
Knock
Knock
Knock

UM...I HEARD YOU DISLIKE PEOPLE AND ARE LIVING IN THE FOREST ALONE,
BUT COULD YOU LEND ME YOUR POWER...?
.....
HUH? WHAT'D YOU SAY?
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D USE IT FOR, BUT THAT I SHOULDN'T GO THROUGH WITH IT...?
IT'S LIKE SHE'S DOING THE "SINGLE DRINKING" RAKUGO SKIT LIKE THIS!
CAN'T THE WITCH TALK?
HEY!! WATCH THE PLAY SERI-OUSLY!!
STOP! THEY'LL LOSE EVEN MORE INTEREST, SO SERIOUSLY, STOP!!

!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO, PREZ!?
Live shows are scary
...IT SORT OF LOOKS LIKE YUKKO-CHAN'S GONNA NEED HELP AFTER TRYING TO SNAP HER OUT OF IT.
...THERE'S NO CHOICE. WE'LL TAKE THEM OUT ONCE.
GET THE SOUND AND BLACKOUT READY!

Gah!

YOU DARN WITCH! ARE YOU PLANNING ON USING YOUR SHADY MAGIC
OW !!
TO TRICK MY DAUGHTER !!!?
BLACK-OUT!
COME ON, SHELLY! LET'S GO HOME!
EH?
HUH !?

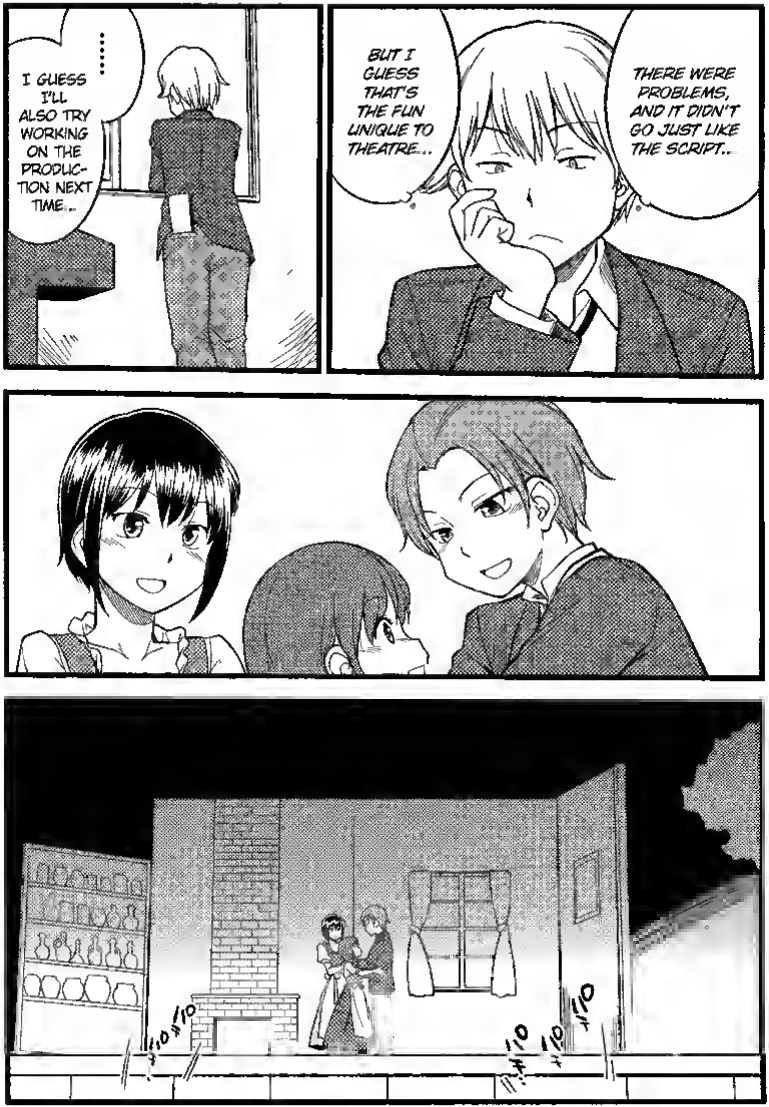
COME WITH ME A MINUTE!
OKAY!
THINGS ARE A LITTLE OUT OF ORDER, BUT LET'S START THE LITTLE SISTER'S SCENE AFTER THE LIGHTS COME BACK.
ALL RIGHT, WHAT DO YOU SEE!?
WHAT DO YOU SEE REFLECTED IN THE MIRROR!?
AH... UMM... MY FACE...
RIGHT? YOU SEE YOURSELF MADE INTO THE WITCH, RIGHT?
RIGHT NOW, YOU'RE NOT JUNICHI SASAKI, OR SAKI YAMADA, BUT THE WITCH LIVING IN THE FOREST!
YOU'RE A WITCH,
SO DON'T BE GETTING SCARED OF A BUNCH OF PUMP-KINS!

AND NOW FOR THE LIGHTS
IT'S ALREADY OUT OF MY HANDS, SO IT IS WHAT IT IS, THOUGH
IT'S DEVIATED FROM THE SCRIPT, BUT WILL THEY BE OKAY...?
I'M THE WITCH WHO LIVES IN THE WOODS.
I HATE DEALING WITH PEOPLE, SO I'M LIVING IN THE FOREST BY MYSELF...
OR AT LEAST I SHOULD HAVE BEEN...
OHH... THANK GOOD-NESS
SOMEHOW OR OTHER, SHE'S RECOVERED.
ALL RIGHT! THEN HERE I GO!

PLEASE, WITCH. LEND ME YOUR POWER.
THERE WAS ANOTHER GIRL LIKE YOU WHO CAME HERE YESTERDAY.
AH, BUT WELL... SHE WAS TAKEN BACK BY HER FATHER BEFORE SHE COULD REQUEST ANYTHING, THOUGH...
THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN MY OLDER SISTER.
THE TWO OF US ARE ON BAD TERMS..
Get along
On bad terms
Request
I SEE.
NO MATTER THE REASON,
ASKING HELP FROM A WITCH MEANS IT'S PROBABLY NOTHING GOOD.
ドヨ

WHOAAA!!
ガシッ…
ガチャ
あっ、だめ
Hya
ヒィ
Ahahaha!

EH...? AH! OKAY!
THIS IS BECAUSE YOUR FATHER GOT ROUGH IN MY HOUSE.
..COME ON, GRAB THAT SIDE.
AH...!
NATURALLY, THE COMPEN-SATION WON'T BE WITH MONEY
I GUESS I'LL HAVE YOU PAY FOR YOUR FATHER'S PORTION, TOO
THEY GOT THROUGH IT SOMEHOW.
Whew
SO LET'S MAKE UP FOR THE ISSUES IN THE FIRST HALF.
THINGS AREN'T OVER YET,


I GUESS I'LL ALSO TRY WORKING ON THE PRODUC-TION NEXT TIME...
BUT I GUESS THAT'S THE FUN UNIQUE TO THEATRE...
THERE WERE PROBLEMS, AND IT DIDN'T GO JUST LIKE THE SCRIPT..

IT'S OVER...
YEAH, SOMEHOW OR OTHER WE GOT THROUGH TO THE END.
COME ON! YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO BE EXHAUSTED!
GO OUT FOR THE CURTAIN CALL!
GOOD WORK YOU GUYS!
.....

UM!
I CAUSED TROUBLE FOR ALL OF YOU TODAY...
SO I'M SORRY !!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, SAKI-SENPAI.
YEAH, JUST DO YOUR BEST NEXT TIME.
...THERE WON'T BE A NEXT TIME.
WHAT I MEAN IS, IT MIGHT BE ENOUGH FOR US TO DO OUR BEST DURING OUR NEXT PERFORMANCE,
BUT FOR THE KIDS WHO SAW THEIR FIRST PLAY TODAY,
IF THAT ENDED UP BEING BORING TO THEM, I DON'T THINK THEY'LL WANT TO SEE ANOTHER ONE
THAT ENDS UP SNATCHING AWAY OUR NEXT OPPORTUNITY.

BUT GOOD WORK TODAY.
I'M COUNTING ON YOU AGAIN NEXT TIME.
ALL RIGHT, THEN LET'S ALL CLEAN UP TOGETHER.
MAKE SURE YOU DON'T LOSE FOCUS AT THE END AND GET HURT.
.....

AH...
AHH...

EVEN THOUGH THIS WAS OUR FIRST PERFOR-MANCE,
I COULDN'T SAY MY LINES PROPERLY...
I COULDN'T PROPERLY RESPOND TO HER AD-LIBBING...
AND EVEN THOUGH I WANTED TO DO THIS PLAY
I WASN'T ABLE TO ACT PROPERLY...
SOME BITTERSWEET FEELINGS REMAIN.
TO BE CONTINUED